

seasons (February–June). In Costa Rica, Boinski and Timm (1985, *Am. J. Primatol.* 9:121–128) reported an observation of a Double-toothed Kite preying on a tent-making bat (*Artibeus* sp.) flushed by a squirrel monkey (*Saimiri oerstedii*). Here, we describe the hunting and successful capture of bats by a solitary adult Double-toothed Kite.

On 29 March 1996, while searching for Orange-breasted Falcons (*Falco deiroleucus*) in a remote area of western Petén, Guatemala, we observed an adult Double-toothed Kite hunting bats emerging from their cliff crevice roosts near the bottom of a large limestone sinkhole. The sinkhole was about 100 m deep by 150 m in diameter, and its bottom was filled with water. At 1728 H, we observed the kite fly from its perch on the cliff about 10 m above the water, upward a short distance at a steep angle, flip backward until upside down, fully extend its legs, seize a flying bat, return to its perch and begin feeding. After eating the bat, the kite made a similar upward flight next to the cliff and perched at a vertical crevice, holding on to the cliff with one foot and bracing itself with its tail as it probed with its other leg into the cleft for several seconds before returning to its perch without prey. At 1802 H, the kite made another upward flight of about 10 m, again flipped backward in a manner identical to that observed previously, but was unsuccessful and returned to its perch. Though the kite still appeared interested, bobbing its head and showing intention movements at times as if to fly, no subsequent hunting attempts were observed when darkness terminated our observations.

To our knowledge, Double-toothed Kites have not been previously reported to capture highly mobile aerial prey on the wing.

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#### RECORDS OF THE SWAINSON'S HAWK IN THE CAPE REGION, BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MEXICO

This is the second record in the last 20 yr of the Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) in the Cape Region, Baja California Sur, Mexico. Our observations were from the La Paz coastal plain near Ensenada de Aripes. This is a suburban and agricultural area through which we drive daily. Halophytes dominate the coastal plain and the climate is BW (h') hw (x') (INEGI 1994, Carta Estatal, Anexo Cartográfico, Síntesis Geográfica del Estado de Baja California Sur, La Paz, México). In México, the Swainson's Hawk is found in the northern Baja California Peninsula from Sonora to eastern Durango and Coahuila and possibly in northern Nuevo León (Howell and Webb 1995, *The birds of Mexico and Central America*, Oxford Univ. Press, London, U.K.). In the northern Baja California Peninsula, the Swainson's Hawk is considered to be fairly common locally as a transient or summer visitor (Grinnell 1928, *A distributional summation of the ornithology of Lower California*, Cambridge Univ. Press, New York, NY U.S.A.). Its current status is uncertain in the southern peninsula with only one hawk sighted on 31 October 1968 in Cabo San Lucas, Baja California Sur (Wilbur 1987, *Birds of Baja California*, Univ. California Press., Berkeley, CA U.S.A.). Swainson's Hawk habitat includes savanna, grassy plains and farmland with scattered trees and bushes. The Mexican name for Swainson's Hawk is "gavilán chapulinero" or "aguililla de Swainson."

In 1998, we recorded six sightings of a Swainson's Hawk, probably all the same individual, southeast of Ensenada de Aripes, bordering the highway Carretera Transpeninsular in El Centenario (24°06'36"N, 110°25'05"W) and west of La Paz (24°06'27"N, 110°21'31"W). All the sightings were of a solitary individual either flying or perched on power lines and poles. It was an adult, light morph with a conspicuous breastband, with a white throat and belly and dark tail that was lighter at the base with indistinct dark bands. The hawk was first seen on 18 and 20 January and was not seen again until nine months later when we saw it on 31 October, 21 and 23 November, and 1 December.

Other raptors were observed with this Swainson's Hawk. They included Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura*), Red-tailed Hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*), Zone-tailed Hawks (*B. albonotatus*), Crested Caracaras (*Polyborus plancus*) and American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*). There are also Cooper's Hawks (*Accipiter cooperii*) and Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) in the area (Romero and Rodríguez 1981, *Densidades en las poblaciones, biomasa, hábitos alimenticios y estratificación de*

la avifauna en un ecosistema del desierto sonorense, La Paz, B.C.S., México). The Swainson's Hawk is a migratory species and does not overwinter in the Cape Region. Its occurrence in this area of Mexico in 1998 may have been caused by anomalies associated with El Niño in 1997.—**E. Amador and R. Mendoza-Salgado, Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas del Noroeste, S.C., P.O. Box 128, La Paz Baja California Sur, 23000 México.**